

**From:** Richard Meckley  
**To:** Microsoft ATR  
**Date:** 1/17/02 5:31pm  
**Subject:** microsoft settlement

please see attached

301 Shores way  
Boone, North Carolina 28607

January 16, 2002

Attorney General John Ashcroft  
US Department of Justice  
950 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW  
Washington, DC 20530

Dear Mr. Ashcroft:

I have heard about the proposed settlement between Microsoft and the federal government. It seems like a reasonable solution to me, and I urge you to support it.

Microsoft is giving up a lot here; even agreeing to give easier access to programs from competing companies, and changing how it handles prices it charges to computer makers. Microsoft will, for example, give coding to its competitors, which will allow them to place their own products on a Windows-based system. Also, Microsoft will agree not to retaliate against companies that use or promote non-Microsoft software. Clearly, this settlement doesn't let Microsoft off easily.

It's time to get this lawsuit behind us. The settlement offers the best opportunity to get past this lawsuit and get the nation focused on business again. As such, I support it.

Sincerely,

Richard Meckley